

Message Text

SECRET

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53

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-01 SP-02

INR-05 CIAE-00 MC-01 EB-03 PRS-01 ACDA-10 TRSE-00

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R 271145Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2239

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 2215

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SU, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY SALES WITH SUDAN

REF: STATE 183582

1. MINFONAFFS MAKKAWI TOLD ME JULY 27 THAT GOS DESIRES PURCHASE FOUR C-130 AIRCRAFT IN US. HE MENTIONED DENG'S INITIAL CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON (REFTEL) AND THAT DENG HAD REPORTED RESPONSE HAD BEEN "FAVORABLE". IF SALE WERE CONSUMMATED, GOS HOPED IT WOULD INCLUDE AGREEMENT ON TRAINING PILOTS, PROVISION NUMBER OF TECHNICIANS AND APPROPRIATE SPARE PARTS. HE SAID MINISTRY WOULD SHORTLY BE SENDING EMBASSY FORMAL NOTE RE THIS TRANSACTION.

2. DRAWING ON MOST HELPFUL REFTTEL, I OUTLINED FOR FONMIN PROCEDURES WHICH CURRENTLY GOVERN SUCH SALES FROM US, EITHER ON COMMERCIAL BASIS OR UNDER FMS PROCEDURES. EMPHASIZED THESE PROCEDURES HAD WORLD-WIDE APPLICATION AND WE WISHED GOS AWARE OF THEM SIMPLY TO ASSURE THAT ANY FORMAL SUDANESE REQUEST WOULD INCLUDE APPROPRIATE INFORMATION REQUIRED TO PROCESS IT. SPECIFICALLY, GOS NOTE SHOULD STIPULATE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT NEEDED, REASONS FOR REQUEST AND WHETHER COMMERCIAL OR FMS CASH PURCHASE

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ENVISIONED. MAKKAWI TOOK CAREFUL NOTES AND SAID THAT

INFORMATION WOULD BE UTILIZED IN PREPARING MINISTRY'S
FORMAL REQUEST TO EMBASSY.

3. COMMENT: NEED FOR C-130 TYPE AIRCRAFT HAS BEEN RE-
EMPHASIZED HERE IN WAKE OF RECENT ABORTIVE COUP WHICH
EXPOSED SUDANESE INABILITY RAPIDLY MOVE ITS MILITARY FORCES
EITHER BACK FROM EGYPT OR TO REMOTE LOCATIONS IN WESTERN
SUDAN. WE SPECULATE NIMEIRI MAY HAVE DISCUSSED
PROCUREMENT WITH SAUDIS IN JIDDA LAST WEEK AND CONCEIVABLY
OBTAINED SOME UNDERTAKING RE FINANCING.
FONMIN TOLD ME HE WOULD BE SEEING NIMEIRI FOLLOWING MY
CALL, IMPLYING THAT PRESIDENT IS ACTIVELY PUSHING TRANSACTION.
MEANWHILE, FROM AMERICAN COMMERCIAL SOURCE WE LEARN
THAT SUDANESE HAVE RECENTLY ALSO BEEN CONSIDERING
CIVILIAN VERSION OF C-130. IN EVENT MILITARY PROCUREMENT
POSES SOME SPECIAL PROBLEM WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE
AS TO WHETHER GOS PURCHASE CIVILIAN VERSION (WHICH PRESUMABLY
COULD ALSO BE USED IN EMERGENCIES FOR TROOP-CARRYING PURPOSE)
MIGHT BE MORE FEASIBLE. BREWER

SECRET

NNN

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